



the CARRIER.....

Published Monthly by the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club

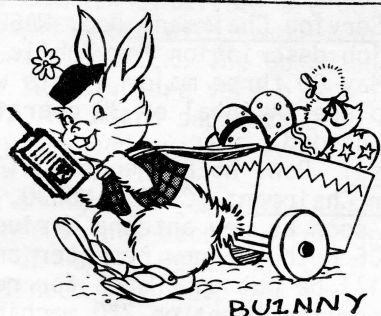
MDARC FIELD DAY CALL W6CX; 2M REPEATER W6CX/R 220 REPEATER W6CX/R MEMORIAL CALL SIGN W6LGW

Volume XXX

April 1982

No. 4

"ALL THE NEWS"



BUNNY

CLUB CALENDAR

- April 11: HAPPY EASTER
April 16: MDARC Club Meeting
April 17: Sat. Mt. Diablo Trail Ride
April 19: Board Meeting 8:00 P.M.
County OES Bldg. 50 Glacier
Dr. Martinez. Everyone Welcome
April 22: Thur. Field Day Meeting, Lafayette, Federal Savings & Loan
N. Broadway, Walnut Creek.
April 25: Sun. March of Dimes, Walk
America, Concord & Antioch.
May 2: Sun. Devil Mt. Run (Childrens
Hospital, Danville
May 8: Sat. Human Race, Concord
Pleasant Hill
May 8: Sat. Bike-A-Thon, Concord, W.C.
May 22: SET/ Listen to Emergency NET

May 23rd the is the Bart to Bart
10 klm run in Concord.

Meeting Notice

This month's meeting will be held
at our regular meeting place, Grace
Presbyterian Church, 2100 Tice Valley
Blvd., Walnut Creek, Friday April 16, 8PM

The evenings speaker will be none
other than our own Russ Wood KA6BPN.
Russ will bring us another one of his
fascinating programs on computers. Russ
always plays to a full house so come
early for a seat!

Nets

"Ya all check in now ya Hear!"

Tech Forum/Swap NET
Thursdays 7:30 P.M. 147.66/06

Contra Costa Emergency NET
Thursdays 8:30 P.M., 146.43 MHz simp.

Parky NET
Every Night 3895 +/- QRM 10 P.M.

DARC NET
Thursdays 7PM on 146.54 MHZ

EDITOR: Doug Smith, WA6GON P.O. Box 23222, Pleasant Hill, Calif. 94523 0222

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------|----------------|--|----------|
| PRESIDENT..... | KT6X | Dick Brown | 4125 Sacramento St., Concord CA 94521 | 687-9048 |
| VICE-PRESIDENT..... | WB6TEE | Don Peattie | 2417 Lomond Ln. Walnut Creek CA 94598 | 935-2636 |
| SECRETARY..... | N6EJU | Dee Koester | 438 Diablo Court, Martinez, CA 94553 | 228-8727 |
| TREASURER..... | KA6IZI | Nancy Hodgson | 120 Summit Road Walnut Creek, CA 94598 | 933-8716 |
| EMERGENCY COORDINATOR.. | WA6OFI | Dave Greenhill | 188 Brown Drive Pacheco, CA 94553 | 686-6657 |
| BOARD MEMBER..... | K6XC | Ron Luttringer | 440 Diablo Court, Martinez, CA 94553 | 229-3987 |
| BOARD MEMBER..... | N6EEQ | Don Bertrand | 1981 Willow Pass, Concord, CA 94520 | |

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Next Board Meeting at: C.C. County O.E.S. Building, 50 Glacier Dr., Martinez, April 19, 8 P.M.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE: Articles, Classified Ads, etc. by April 26, 1982

MDARC Board Meeting

March 22, 1982

QTH - 50 Glacier Dr. , Martinez

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 by our President Dick Brown KT6X.

Board members present were: Don, WB6TEE, Nancy, KA6IZI, Don, N6EEQ, Ron, K6XC and yours truly Dee, N6EJU.

Members present were: Parky K6IMV, Val, KD6KV, Joe, WA6DQN, Cecil, N6EBQ, Rick, NA6Q, Doug, WA6GON and Doug, W6KLM.

Corrections to minutes are: Don, N6EEQ should be listed as Board member, also present at last Board Meeting but omitted from minutes were Joe, WA6DQN and Cecil, N6EBQ. Budget change concerning education to be stricken from minutes.

M.M.S.P. That minutes be approved as corrected.

Club History: Good typist needed to complete the project.

Auction: went ok. A great job done by Art Mayoff, VE2AQV. The Board greatly appreciated all he did.

Operating Events: Still in preparation.

Public Relations: Due to his heavy work load Chuck, WA6MWU is unable to complete his term. Betty, KB6UX has graciously accepted to take on the position.

M.M.S.P. That we allot \$25.00 for Betty, to enable her to attend Public Relations Seminar.

Broken Table: The Insurance Company will pay \$60.00 to the Church for table broken at January Meeting.

Bulk Postage: Bulk mailing discussed and will be investigated further.

Christmas Party: Decision of the Board as not to subsidize Christmas Party. \$100.00 allotted to Rick, NA6Q for deposit on Elk Club.

Club Brochure: Don, W6EEN in the process of putting it together.

CARRIER: Doug, WA6GON, Editor. Discussion took place on ways to increase advertising to help pay for postage on CARRIER. The Board Members each expressed his and her approval of the CARRIER.

Picnic: Rick, NA6Q announced a date change for picnic from August to July 18, 1982. Joe Simpson, KA6EBF, who is a Club member has donated his ranch for the picnic.

Vice President: Don, WB6TEE, announced that our April Meeting will have Russ, KA6BPN, as its speaker.

Secretary: Dee, N6EJU, said that a letter was written to the party who was using the 2 meter repeater input 146.66 to work simplex and unknowingly keying up the repeater. No answer has been received but the interference has cleared up.

Treasurer: Nancy, KA6IZI, said we have \$1,700.09 in checking and \$1,209.81 in savings.

Membership: Frank, N6GQ, says we have 219 members.

Club of the Year: Ron, K6XC, says everything going well.

Free CARRIER list: Free CARRIER being sent to 10 Clubs.

Education Chairman: Chuck, KB6UY, Only 2 weeks of class left. Chuck will line up fall location for classes. He has asked to be relieved as Education Chairman. Chuck has held the position for two years and has done a super job.

Public Service Chairman: Joe, WA6DQN, submitted job description for Public Service. Sunday May 8, three major events will be taking place. A total of 30 operators will be needed.

Red Cross: Don, N6EEQ reports all quiet.

Repeater Chairman: Cecil, N6EBQ, reports that as soon as new antenna arrives for 146.66/06 both the new repeater and antenna will be put up. Hopes for replacing transmit antenna on 220 machine are the week-end of April 3rd. Because of his work schedule which keeps him out of town more than in, Cecil, has asked to be relieved of his duties as Chairman. He will see that both repeaters are in good working order before he leaves his post.

New Business: CARRIER space for D.A.R.C. was discussed. Also discussed was the possibility of a Novice NET.

CATVI: A letter to be written to the FCC by Don, WB6TEE, expressing the Boards point of view.

Field Day: Rick NA6Q announced that he will Co Chair Field Day along with Don, W6EEN.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dee Koester, N6EJU
Secretary

Harry Davis, KA6GFI has been injured on the job and is in Kaiser Hospital, Walnut Creek. Full extent of his injuries are not known as this goes to press.

GET WELL, HARRY!

The Carrier Quoted

The following CARRIER authors were quoted in the March issue of these fine Amateur Club Publications:

WA2CEP & KT6Y in The Minuteman
MMRA Lexington, Mass.

The President's Corner....

Three cheers for Rick Bernard and his Auction team. The Club made \$430.60. And checks to the sellers will be out soon. A special thanks to Mrs. Lee Herenkoehl for her equipment donated to the Club that amounted to \$332.00. Also a special "ATABOY" to Art, VE2AQU, for hauling all the goodies and preparing them for sale. A super job.

Before, at, and following the Boards recent review of the work that Doug, WA6GON and his CARRIER Committee are doing, we have been flooded with complements about last months CARRIER. The Board and apparently the Club are very pleased with the results. The Board supports Doug's approach, plans and quality work. Let Doug know how you feel!

Some changes in Committee Heads. Betty, KB6UX, has accepted the challenging job of Public Relations Chairperson. She will need your help and ideas.

Its sure tough to find a "Tower Fixing" weekend. However, with the valuable assistance of Guy, N6DTU and Frank, N6GQ, we moved the two towers with the 6 element Tri-Bander from Del Valle Campus to the Acalanes School in Lafayette three weeks ago. Windel Price and his students are implementing plans for an F.M. station, Ham station and a Red Cross Emergency Center (Equipped with 2 meters.)

73's Dick KT6X

Deadline Announcement

For your convenience, CARRIER article and Classified Ad deadlines through Dec. are the following: Mar. 27, Apr. 30, May 28, June 25, July 23, Aug. 27, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 26, Dec. 24. Contributors are encouraged to submit articles well in advance so our typists fingers don't ache so at the end of the month. Extensions will be granted as time permits. Your cooperation is appreciated. (Ed.)

CATV RFI

Concord TV Cable would appreciate amateurs contacting them FIRST about CATV leaks. THEY ARE VERY HELPFUL!

MDARC General Meeting

March 19, 1982

Because of the Auction a short meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by Dick KT6X.

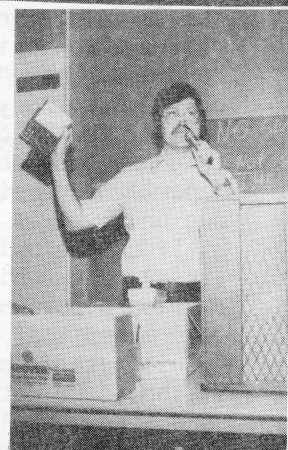
M.M.S.P. For \$100.00 to be allotted for deposit on Elks Club, for Christmas Party.

Social Chairman: Rick NA6Q, asked for a show of hands as to how many would like to have the Christmas Party catered by the Elks Club. The majority was for Elks Club catered dinner.

Respectfully Submitted

Dee Koester, N6EJU

Secretary



THE SOUTHERN CHAPTER..... news from down south

by Jerry Boyd, WA6CUP

This month we thought it might be of some interest to those members of MDARC, who are active in A.R.E.S. or R.A.C.E.S., to see the results of a community project in Coronado which resulted in the police department having an "old," new mobile command post.

In the years following both WWII and the Korean War, the United States government became very concerned with civil defense. Part of that concern resulted in providing, at various points across the nation, a fleet of heavy duty civil defense trucks for use in time of major emergency. In 1954 the City of Coronado received a new 1954 model REO truck equipped for heavy rescue and a variety of disaster activities. The venerable REO saw little actual service for the purpose it was built. However, it was maintained in a state of readiness should a disaster occur. Members of the Coronado Amateur Radio Society, including MDARC member W6HQL, used it on several occasions as a base of operations for ARRL field day activities. Photo number one depicts just such a use with the Field Day site being along the beautiful "Silver Strand", not too far from the waters of San Diego Bay.

In the 1960's, the REO was assigned to the Coronado Fire Department where it received a new paint job and some additional "cut and rescue" equipment. It spent most of the past 20 years in infrequent service, and in January of this year was scheduled to go on the auction block when the fire department received delivery of a new rescue unit.

Since the price was extremely right (free), the vehicle was saved from the auction block when the police department determined that it could be outfitted for regular use as a special operations unit. It should be noted that in its 28 year life span, the vehicle had accrued only 5,500 actual miles and was deemed by city mechanics to be in very good condition. Another plus is the fact that sufficient spare parts are on hand to keep the vehicle running for many more years.

Through the efforts of a local bank, several community groups and individuals, and the San Diego Amateur Radio Council, the vehicle was repainted and outfitted with a broad array of communications equipment. It is essentially capable of functioning as a self-contained mobile command post for up to 72 consecutive hours without replenishment of fuel, food, water or other supplies.

The special operations unit as it now exists (depicted in photo #2) is available for major events such as our annual Fourth of July parade, missing persons searches, major crime scene work, and disasters of all types. It contains a large quantity of a variety of different equipment items and supplies. It is equipped for both AC and DC operation and has been re-wired from 6 to 12 VDC.

Radio equipment consists of the following:

Two 6-channel VHF police and fire radios which operate independently; all band synthesized, programmable scanner; citizens band radio; AM/FM black and white television; VHF marine transceiver; military police and fire radio; 2 meter, 220 and 450 Mhz FM amateur transceivers; 160-10 meter SSB transceiver and mobile telephone.

This vehicle, which is available to respond statewide under the law enforcement mutual aid plan, has been outfitted at minimal cost to the taxpayers of Coronado. Much of the expense was borne by the amateur radio community. Listen for W6MLI during the upcoming ARRL field day. That station will be operating from the special operations unit, Courtesy of Coronado Amateur Radio Society Club license trustee W6HQL.

73 Jerry



short currents

by C.W. Morse

What an auction!. Peter, K06R was in superb form. He brought with him his best humor which sure made the time pass all too quickly. Val our Prize Committee Chairman kept us in suspense with super prizes and TWO drawings! Lots of folks left with some real bargains...Squires picked up another HT-32B Hallicrafters for a song and a dance. He purchased a tank antenna to go along with it. Rumor has it the HT32 will be used for ballast to keep one end of his trailer on the ground. His Ham station occupies the other end... Sounds like Rick Kecso our Social Chmn. is doing a bang up job planning our Christmas party for 1982...In answer to Smorga Bob's last letter, "I can't And you've got to be kidding!"...Don't let the kids near the 220 rig! GON reports (R) rated movie audio in Concord at 221.75 MHZ coming from the cable company...LKE and JGV have a RACES/ARES seminar planned. This is where our organized training really starts. Listen in on the ARES/RACES NET for details see the ARES/RACES column in this issue...Aluminum recycling will be taken over by KA6JGP, Dick, to keep the Awards Committee in the black... John, WB6UMT reports CATVI at his QTH is back up in signal strength. He's making another call to the cable company... Paul Taylor, ex-WA6TXM is now KC7LA (Kansas City 7 Los Angeles nothing.) He finally has the whole family with him in the North West, in Olympia, Washington. Paul will report back the answer to a heretofore unanswered question, "Are there in fact Artesian hams?"...WA6ZFZ has a new AZDEN two-meter HT...Miles, W6QEN has taken up mud wrestling according to sources who monitor 220-CX... KA6DPW, Doug, provided eye-saving first aid for a co-worker who suffered a severe eye injury at the machine shop he works at in Sacramento. Another Lortsher proves his metal...In answer to last month's query, yes, Carl, AI6V named his own street Tower Hill Rd. Fantasy come true...Joe, WA6DQN ex-Prize Committee Chairman scored a victory. Joe walked away with the top door prize at the March Auction, an ISOPOLE 2-meter antenna...WA2CEP, Jim was quoted again in another club bulletin... More trivia next month...73 C.W.

ponder this.....

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TR-7800 \$339.95
TR-7850 \$379.95
TR-2500 \$299.95
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ICOM 730)
ICOM 3AT 220 MHZ In Stock
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OUR ONLY BUSINESS IS HAM RADIO!

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HAVE THE LARGEST
AMATEUR RADIO INVENTORY
IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

A Good Emergency Reporter

by Doug Smith, WA6GON
Concord Police Dispatcher

Part 2

RESPONSE TIME

As stated earlier, response to your Emergency may not meet your personal expectations. When you're in trouble or reporting a catastrophic incident each minute seems like forever. One minute goes by, two, four, six, and you think to yourself, "Why aren't the police HERE?"

Your self control has to extend beyond the initial phone call. Please avoid calling the police back to check on the status of your call unless you have more information that can help. Police don't use Star Trek transporters to materialize instantaneously at the scene. Police and other public safety units are driving through City traffic to your aid. If they are enroute Code 3 (lights and sirens) the safety of citizens on the route must be considered. Public safety units take the fastest possible route, traveling as safely as possible.

Police Officers who arrive at the scene of a serious crime will often contain an area with a perimeter of officers to block escape of suspects before they contact you. While the panicky citizen is harassing the Police Dispatcher on the phone, the officers may have been in the area for some time. Keep in mind an Emergency Dispatcher's time is PRECIOUS. Emergencies equally as important as yours may require their immediate attention.

COLOR CODES

When speaking with an Emergency Dispatcher don't color your language with police, fire or ambulance, codes you have picked up from scanner listening. Leave code translation of incidents to the Dispatcher. Codes, crime classifications, and 10-signals may all have different meanings or applications at different agencies. You will always have to explain your call to the Dispatcher anyway.

Avoid speaking in Amateur Radio lingo. Not every Police Dispatcher is a Ham. All you do is slow down the communication process by confusing the Dispatcher with "gobble-de-gook." Colloquial CB jargon is even more confusing. (If you have a CB friend pass the word.) Engage brain, before opening mouth. Be brief, to the point, and speak plainly.

THE BEST INFORMATION

Depending on the incident you report to the Police, certain kinds of information are more useful than others. To get the right information, the most important thing to remember is to be aware. Be conscious of your surroundings.

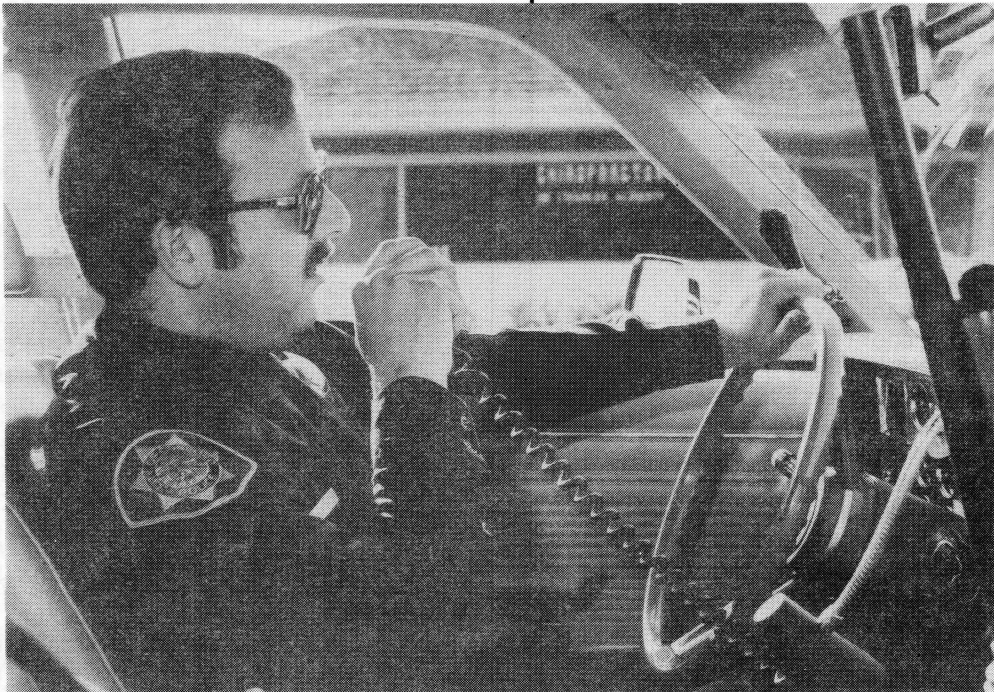
Reporting an accident requires for instance that you know where you are. Some persons don't always know! Think! What freeway are you on? What street? What direction are you traveling, North, South, East, or West? What freeway entrance have you passed and what exit are you approaching? What mile marker are you near? Is the highway shoulder through a fence into a creek? Are there any injuries? Are people trapped in vehicles?

On your daily excursions shopping or traveling to work, make it a point to learn the proper route numbers of the freeways you use and the streets you travel. Pay attention to freeway exits you pass and the landmarks you go by.

At home, also be aware of your surroundings so your emergency report from the home telephone is just as effective as your mobile report. Do you know your neighbor's address in case he needs help? Does your neighbor know yours? How many houses down the street from an intersection of streets are you? Can you explain briefly and accurately the route to your home by street names? Do you know the license number of your car? Simple things can escape your memory in the clinches if you don't really know them.

Once you train yourself to pay attention to your surroundings you will begin to observe and retain even finer details. These finer details may be particularly important when reporting crimes to a law enforcement agency. Police work more effectively if the best information, the right kind of information is available.

When reporting crimes against persons or property, it is important to observe and communicate to the Police Dispatcher specific information regarding suspects, weapons, vehicles, locations, injuries, and the direction of travel of suspects. Practice describing to yourself persons, vehicles, locations, and objects you see so you become proficient and accurate. It's quite a simple memory game. The following lists outlines in greater detail the items you want to look for:



SUSPECTS: When describing suspects to law enforcement try to provide this information in the order shown: name, sex, race, age, height, weight, hair, facial hair, eyes, complexion, physical appearance and clothing. A physical appearance description includes the suspects overall appearance: clean, grubby, odor, scars, marks, tatoos, limps etc. A clothing description should include all clothing you can see described from head to toe: hat, shirt, tie, coat, pants, socks, and shoes.

VEHICLES: The license number of a vehicle should be obtained whenever possible, but remember an overall description of the vehicle is equally important. License plates can be switched. Provide: vehicle make, year of manufacture, color, model or body style, location of any damage, unusual markings or paint spots, bumper stickers, and any accessories you observe like antennas and hood ornaments.

LOCATIONS: Know where you are! ascertain the crimes place of occurrence, the address or location from which you are calling, the location of injured persons or witnesses, and the locations and directions of travel of suspects.

WEAPONS: Indicate to the Police Dispatcher the type of weapon used in the crime and the way in which it was used. Was it a gun? Pointed or shot? Was it a rifle or a shotgun? What color was the weapon and its parts? Was it a knife, martial arts weapon, a rock or a length of rope? Everything helps, remember, BE AWARE!

BECOMING INVOLVED

Giving your name and address so Police Officers can speak to you personally about the incident you reported increases law enforcement efficiency. Have the courage to stand up for the laws you expect the police to enforce. Law enforcement is a cooperative effort.

You of course have the right to remain anonymous. Should you take this position when reporting crimes, please remain on the telephone until the Dispatcher ends the telephone call. You can still be a cooperative anonymous reporter.

The police refrain from encouraging you to pursue a suspect, make an arrest, or doing anything to endanger your safety. The Police Officer is there to do that job. Direct involvement no one can fault you for is providing emergency first aid to the injured. Consider enrolling in an American Red Cross first aid course if you have not already done so. You never know, when you stop to call in an accident you may find yourself trying to save a life

Becoming involved is a decision no other person can make for you. I would like to think that most Amateurs have included a law enforcement commitment within the radio license mandate we adhere to in the Communications Act of 1934, "to serve the public interest, convenience and necessity," and as prescribed in the FCC Rules Part 97.1, "the Basis and Purpose of Amateur Radio."

Continued next page col.1

Emergency Reporter con't.

BACK ON THE FREEWAY...

..."W6LKE from WA6GON, can you copy emergency traffic for the Highway Patrol?"

"W6LKE, go ahead Doug."

"OK, I'm at a two car accident with major injury on Freeway 242, North bound in the fast lane, between Concord Avenue and the 242 Grant Street exit. Someone appears trapped in a car."

"Roger, Doug. Stand by."

Dwayne, W6LKE reports the location of the accident to the Highway Patrol and the Patrol's Dispatcher asks, "Are there any injured trapped in vehicles?"

Dwayne replies, "Yes a Ham operator at the scene told me by radio someone is trapped in a car. My call back number is 555-1212."

Puzzled, the Dispatcher asks, "What's a Ham?"

"A good emergency reporter!" Dwayne responds.

Doug Smith has been a Concord Police Dispatcher since 1979 and a Ham since 1975. He is active in ARES/RACES and Red Cross emergency efforts, a member of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club and Association of Public Safety Communications Officers, NAPCO.

RACES/ARES

The first Emergency Services Training Seminar will be held Saturday May 1, 1982 from 9AM to 4PM, at the Concord Police Academy at the end of Academy Rd. off Alberta Way in Concord.

Subjects to be covered are 1) Red Cross communications, 2) CDF program, 3) communications for local and state government. 4) general preparedness, 5) and even a seminar on taxes and emergency service deductions. Many other topics will be discussed of interest to ARES/RACES volunteers.

You are requested to pre-register by mailing in the attached Registration Form with two dollars (\$2.00) to cover refreshments and administrative costs. Enrollment is limited to sixty-five persons. Non-ham participants and spouses are welcome. Bring your own sack lunch or some extra cash for the junk-food places nearby. RSVP by April 24, 1982 at the latest.

I'd like to announce that Larry Kay W6CPO is the CDF Volunteers in Prevention Coordinator for 1982. Give Larry your support. In other news I met with the new County OES director Cecil Williams. Cecil is very interested in becoming a Ham and is very supportive of

our organization. At the Region 2 State OES level volunteers will soon be completing the installation of three more radios into the Ham communications console in the Concord office.

Listen for future details on the upcoming Simulated Emergency Test (SET) scheduled for May 22, 1982. Contact your EC for special ALERT procedures.

Check-ins on the Thursday night Contra Costa Emergency NET (8:30 PM). Thursday 18 March, West County Amateurs under the watchful eye of Dave, N6DRT had 12 check-ins to their Thursday night NET. W6JSO from West County checked in to the Central County NET where Dave, WA6OFI recorded 13 checkins. Bill, WA6ZFZ East County EC logged 10 check-ins making the county total, 35!

Dwayne, W6LKE reports the National Weather Service is gearing up the Amateur SKYWARN program and advises all interested persons to listen in on the NET for upcoming details.

Ron Miller WB6JGV

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CALL _____ PHONE _____

Make checks payable to the American Red Cross. Their Treasurer has volunteered to handle these funds. The two dollars will be considered a tax deductible donation to the Red Cross.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

In the February CARRIER our President, Dick Brown, reminded us that the MDARC is 35 years old. The year was 1947, W.W.2 was over and the HAMS were back on the air. A few of the locals started to get together and our Club was formed.

This year another Birthday will be celebrated also the 35th. Back in the year 1947 some men working at the Bell Labs in N.J. gave birth to an invention that, in its own way, has had a profound influence upon the industrialized world. This invention, along with the developments it has spawned, rank along with such things as the automobile and the airplane, in shaping the world we live in.

The three men directly involved in this work, John Bardeen, Walter Brattain and William Shockley, received a Nobel Prize in Physics for there work in 1956.

The invention? The first TRANSISTOR!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY.

Jim WA2CEP

SOCIAL ACTIVITY

CHRISTMAS PARTY - - - ALREADY???

Those of you who attended the March auction and meeting already know about our Christmas Party plans. But for those of you who didn't, here is the news:

The membership almost unanimously approved our plans to hold a catered Christmas Party at the Elks' Club in Concord on Sunday, December 12. The Elks are catering this, so they can't possibly forget (otherwise we'll detach their antlers). The cost? We don't exactly know yet, because the club may be subsidizing a portion of the cost per plate. Expect about \$7 a plate per adult and about \$5 a plate per child. You may think that this is expensive but their food and service are both excellent. Now that you know about our Christmas Party plans, put a few dollars away for it right now, because we're all going to have a great time. Don't miss it!!!

CLUB PICNIC

Our annual club picnic will be held on Sunday, July 18th of this year. If you don't mark your calendar and reserve that day right now, you are going to miss a unique experience. We have got a picnic planned for this year that you won't believe. In addition to a great feast, we plan to have some interesting entertainment for the whole family, a remote operating station (reserved especially for the novices), a great location (more on that later), and a possible mini-swap meet if anyone is interested. We'll be telling you more about this every month. One word of advice --- WATCH THIS SPACE!!!

Rick, NA6Q

P.S. HELP! I need volunteers to help me with the picnic. Please contact me through the club address or phone me at 689-4998

OOPS!!!

On page 15 of last month's CARRIER Harry Howe's classified accidentally ended up in the Base Station's advertisement. Our apologies to Harry and The Base Station for any inconvenience this may have caused.

On page 6 the Ed. forgot to give credit where credit was due. Thanks to the Marcom of Montreal, Canada for the little feature on Murphy's.

Public Service

April 17, Saturday Mt. Diablo Trail Ride

April 25, Sunday March of Dimes, Walk America Concord, Antioch

May 2, Sunday Devil Mt. Run (Children's Hosp., Danville)

May 8, Saturday Human Race, Concord Pleasant Hill

May 8, Saturday Bike-A-Thon, Concord-Walnut Creek

May 23rd there is the Bart to Bart 10K1m run in Concord.

April starts the busy season for providing communications for various outdoor events. On Sunday April 4 the American Cancer Society's "Run for Daylight" in Alamo was supported by Frank Calton N6GQ Betty Hollidge KB6UX, Tom Nock KD6VA, Doug Lortsher W6KLM, Douglas Lortsher KA6DPW and Joe Gregory WA6DQN.

April 17, Saturday, Dave Greenhill has a team lined up for the annual Mount Diablo Trail Ride. Sunday April 25, March of Dimes, "Walk America". Separate events in Antioch, where Bill Van Voorhis has already lined up a team, and in Concord and Pleasant Hill, commencing and finishing at Diablo Valley College. Ten operators will be needed in the central county area. The run starts at 8:00 a.m. and operators should be in place before that time. Route maps, check point locations, and other details will be available at sign up at April meeting. Sunday, May 2 Devil Mountain Run, Danville, for Children's Hospital. Start and finish at Wells Fargo Bank, 585 San Ramon Valley Boulevard. 8 or 10 operators needed. Further details and sign up at April Mtg. Saturday, May 8, will test out Club's ability to meet multiple demands for communications. The Contra Costa County Volunteers Bureau holds "The Human Race" through Concord and Pleasant Hill, starting and finishing at The Willows shopping center on Diamond Blvd. in Concord. In addition to check point operators, one or two hams willing to use their cars for "poop trucks" to follow the stragglers are desired.

At the Same Time, the American Cancer Society and Junior Women's Club of Walnut Creek are holding a Bike-A-Thon in Concord, starting at Mt. Zion elementary school near Clayton and following a course west to Countrywood shopping center in Walnut Creek and back.

Please volunteer for one of these events if you are able to. We shall need about 20 operators altogether this day.

Joe, WA6DQN

I do not know how long the MDARC has been teaching Ham Radio classes, but I bet it must be over 8 years. I have been teaching the code bit from the beginning. I started with novice, worked up to mid General (8-10 WPM) and for the past five years 10-15 WPM for those who desire General.

I used to be asked why I was not an extra. I used the old excuses that 20 WPM would be a breeze except I could not write fast enough. That is partially true. As your code speed goes up so does your ability to write faster. I was challenged by a couple of students and decided to go for the Extra. I found that some of those things I was preaching at the code classes was even more true. As is evident by my new call I did make Extra. For those who feel that it is embarrassing to fail an FCC Code test, I can only say that it happens to maybe 80% of those who take the test. So do not feel bad. Go back 30 days later and try again. I passed General the first time (by the skin of my teeth). In the old days you had to get exactly 65 characters in a row out of five min. of code. I got exactly 65 in a row. For Extra I failed two times passing on the third time. Each time I thought I knew 20 WPM solid. Each time the tension, pressure, the way the test is given caused me to miss one question too many. Each time I returned it was a bit easier as I knew what to expect. The tension and pressure were less and I became an old hand at it.

Learning code is like learning a foreign language. You are teaching your brain cells to hear combinations of dits and daws and to automatically transmit these to your hand as you write the letter or number down. There is no transposing what you hear. It must be automatic. To obtain this practice is the byword. Practice, practice, practice, at least 15 min. every day. Everyone has 15 min. in each day to listen to code. It must be planned and regular. Some will take longer than others but I do not know anyone who cannot learn code. I have taught some of the hardest cases who have made it, myself being the classic case. The easiest method to listen to code on a regular basis is with a tape recorder. Purchase a code tape, the Ameco being one of the best. If you have a receiver listen to W6QIE who is on every nite Tues. thru Sunday from 8:00PM starting at 5 WPM to 25 WPM approx. ten min. per speed. Tape record once each week, W6QIE at the speed slower than you think you

you are at, the speed you think you are at and the speed faster than you are at. This will give you 30 min. of code. Always listen to code of which you can only copy 60% You must always be trying a speed faster than you can do. If your going for 13 WPM listen to code characters being sent at 13 WPM character speed, but spacing between the letters to give you the necessary Words Per Min. In other words if you are trying to learn 7 WPM or 13 WPM the dits and daws are always being sent at 13 WPM and only the spacing between the letters changes. I will say it again. You must practice every day for at least 15 min. If you print, I suggest you print small letters or if you print capitals learn to print a small "e". By the time the word "been" has been sent and you block print, you will have written the first "e" and the word will already have gone by.

Taking the Test is simple but traumatic. Arrive early at the FCC. Different tests are given at different times. Check before you go. Make out your 610 form and other small forms they have for you. They will call you into the room at which time you will sign in with the examiners desk. If you cannot hear it tell the examiner at this time. There are no excuses that you could not hear. In the past they have sent a five min. tape of a Ham conversing in CW. The first thing coming will be the calls of station being sent to and the station receiving. These calls will be on the test as one of the questions. The only things you must get correctly are numbers and names. Misspelled words can always be determined but temperatures or heights of towers etc cannot be guessed. The test is a ten question "Fill In" type. Fill in the spaces exactly as you received it. If they send out the word "California", do not abbreviate it "CA.". It must be answered exactly as sent. You can miss four out of ten questions. Good Luck and if you miss don't quit. Try again.

For those of you who are up-grading think when answering the question do you want a different call letter. You may keep the call you presently have, but if you do not request to keep it they will issue you another. The subject of learning the code could fill 12 issues of the CARRIER. I hope the above helps some just a little. Come to the Code classes when given next year and up-grade your license. The school has some of the best theory instructors. Good Luck and see you in the code classes.

Jay D. Caldis KT6Y

The Editor's Space



The CARRIER Staff received a vote of confidence at the last MDARC Board Meeting that really bolstered our spirits. Speaking for everyone who makes this publication possible, thank you for your comments and support.

It is the staff's intention to give you a newsy newsletter each month. We'd like to not be limited by postage costs from cranking out a meaty club paper. Therefore, with the Board's approval the CARRIER will seek a few new advertisers to offset the cost of any additional postage from month to month. Club members who have their own business might wish to take advantage of this offer of advertising space. Val Vallis our Prize Committee Chmn. is handling the details. Rates for a half-page of space are fifteen dollars per month, seven dollars and fifty cents for a quarter page per month. The CARRIER can help you while you help the CARRIER.

I'd like to encourage anyone who wants to be involved with the CARRIER in writing, paste-up etc to volunteer. A good place to start would be at our monthly paste-up party. Your welcome to come help. Contact DEE, N6EJU or Doug #2 W6KLM by phone for April's date.

The CARRIER desperately needs authors. Is there someone interested in writing the MEMBER SPOTLIGHT column each month. Are there any two, three or four of you who might like to share the responsibility? Other columns that could use a boost are RACES/ARES and Technical Tips and Techniques. C.W. Morse has also asked that I ask you for short news bits to be included in his monthly column. (Newsy, folksy or humorous things about our members). Keep writing.

Ed.

CATVI

PARKY PARKINSON, K6IMV obtained the following information regarding a HAM/FCC/ CABLE Industry meeting in Visalia, CA In March, via K6VFQ, the Mission Trail NET.

- 1) The FCC has very little money to respond to Amateur CATVI complaints.
- 2) The FCC suggested since they have neither money nor manpower that Amateurs WRITE THEIR CONGRESSMAN, Cable companies and Sen. Barry Goldwater.

More next month!

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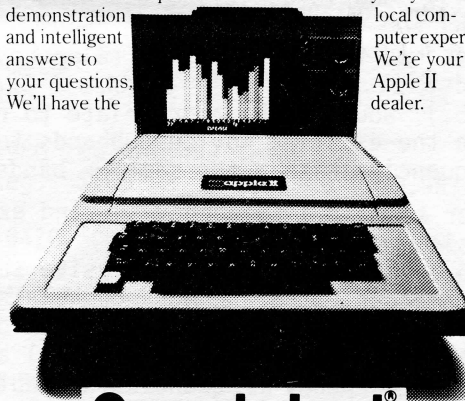
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See Russ-KA6BPN

Dits & Bits / W5YI Report

FCC's Private Radio Bureau says they got in 12,955 amateur applications during January 1982 and it is taking 24 working days (about 5 weeks counting mail time) to get a ham ticket to a licensee...(It took 6 weeks during December, so they are improving!)

The FCC said it needed comments (before July 1, 1982) on the following questions before it could allocate additional phone frequencies in bands other than 20-meters:

(1.) Would expansion of the telephony subbands have a major detrimental impact on domestic telegraphy operations?

(2.) Do non - U.S. stations still have a legitimate requirement to be protected, on some frequencies, from U.S. telephony operations?

(3.) Does the current trend toward the use of transceivers (with a common transmit and receive tuner) make the reservation of frequencies suitable for contacting foreign stations using "split operation" unnecessary or undesirable?

(4.) Should additional subband allocations for telephony be contiguous with (attached to) the existing telephony subbands?

(5.) Would it be appropriate to relocate the existing Novice subbands to new frequencies within the same HF bands in order to make a telephony subband expansion more orderly?

(6.) Are the current exclusive subbands for Amateur Extra and Advanced Class operators sufficient to meet the goals of our incentive licensing program if all additional telephony frequencies are authorized to General as well as Amateur Extra and Advanced Class operators?

(7.) How should the recent expansion of the Canadian telephony subband in the 7-Mhz band influence proposals for a U.S. telephony expansion in the same band?

(8.) The Commission encourages Commenters to make specific recommendations as to what frequencies would be best suited to use for additional telephony privileges and the relative occupancy of those frequencies.

(9.) Comments about related matters not explicitly mentioned above are also invited.

DARC

A QUICK HISTORY OF THE DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.

The Club began to form in May 1981, after Chuck WA6YVH approached Alex KR6G and Rick WB6EZI and suggested that there be a Radio Club formed for the East County (Pittsburg, Antioch, Oakley, Brentwood etc) The Goals of the Club were set up to be, a place where those that were interested, would receive help in getting a license, and see to it that those who had a license would receive help getting on the air, and of course to serve the local community.

We were all surprised to find out how many people that were in the area that had a license, there are about 65 members in the Club and room for lots more.

Bill WB6JPB is the Club President and Rick WB6EZI is Vice President and Chris KA6NZG as Secretary. The Club is going to reelect officers in July and is looking for anyone who would like to run for office. If you know of anyone who is interested get a hold of Rick WB6EZI, George WA6LPR or myself Alex KR6G. Twenty one of the group got together and purchased a simplex auto patch which is located at WA6REL's house, and Dennis is in a super area for coverage throughout Contra Costa. If you are in the East County area and require a call to the Police or Fire Dept., drop down on 146.54 and ask for assistance and we will hook you up direct.

The Club has a NET on 146.54 simplex at 7 PM every Thursday and meets at Homestead Savings and Loan at 16th and A St. Antioch on the last Thursday of the month at 7 PM everyone welcome.

The next event coming up in the community is the Walk America sponsored by the March of Dimes, WB6UMT John is heading it up for East County and needs 10 to 15 people to help from about 7 AM until 1 or 2 PM if you can help all or part of the time contact John on 145.41 or 146.54.

We hope to get a T Hunt going this summer and mite work up an exchange with the MDARC and go from one area to another every other weekend, Lets hear from you.

73's Alex KR6G

See Ya at a MDARC or
DARC meeting

Rewritten by Rick WB6EZI

IVF & OCZ to the Rescue

On Tuesday March 23 at about 12:15 PM, Gerald Daulman, 20, a chemistry student, was involved in an explosion which caused him injuries and damaged the chemistry lab at Diablo Valley College (DVC) in Pleasant Hill, CA. Within the next few minutes amateur radio would once again prove its usefulness in time of emergency.

Jim House, KA6IVF, was nearby when the incident occurred.

First there was the sound of an explosion, then breaking glass, followed by white smoke and the screams of fellow students as they hurried out of the Lab. Daulman was bleeding from several cuts on his hands and face, and was clutching his chest. When he got outside, several other students overcame their shock and got him to lie down. Many of the students appeared to have had some first aid training, and when a first aid kit arrived at the scene, they began to apply dressings to the young man's arms and hands. KA6IVF forgot about his lunch and returned to his classroom across the hall for his hand held 2 meter transceiver, and brought up WA6WVH/RPT repeater, asking one of the control operators Louis Brydon, WA6OCZ to access the auto patch. He then called the operator requesting an ambulance. WA6OCZ was in another building at DVC and after this call was completed, checked at the nearby Dental Technology training unit to see if anyone with needed skills could be found there and sent to the scene. The frequency was kept clear for about ten minutes until the DVC security, Pleasant Hill police and ambulance EMT's arrived and provided their own communications.

From the damage it must have been quite an explosion. Four windows were broken, and two large pieces were broken from a solid, thick lab table top. As to the cause of the mishap, rumors abound. However, little information was available about the kind of mixture which the injured student was said to have been making.

James D. House KA6IVF

Frank, WA6GYR, is looking for photography help. He needs to make training aids by making color slides of printed pages.

ponder this

He who hesitates is bumped into.

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TECHNICAL CORNER

Jim Lisson WA2CEP

THE QUEST FOR RECEIVER FREQUENCY STABILITY

Today we have receivers using Phase Locked Oscillators and other high stability circuits such that we can dial up a number on a numeric readout and receive on the frequency with accuracy and stability. Thus, along with digital techniques, we now can scan a band of frequencies for a signal with crystal accuracy well up into the hundreds of MHz. It was not always so! Let us take a quick look at some of the things that came before.

The first thing that comes to mind is the crystal set. This is a form of Direct Conversion. That means that the R.F. signal is demodulated directly into A.F.

For the old "A.M. signals there was no stability problem but there also was no sensitivity or selectivity with this receiver. For this we can use one or more tuned R.F. amplifier stages. The tuning of each stage tracked with the dial. For A.M. this worked fine and was called a "Tuned Radio Frequency" (TRF) receiver. For CW and SSB reception on this type of receiver just add a BFO and perhaps use a product detector. This receiver will work just fine but the BFO must be tunable to the same frequency range as the receiver and this can lead to drift of the BFO, (VFO) Now take this receiver and make it multiband. This means a lot of switching for all the RF amplifiers and the BFO. Switching the BFO frequency range means that the drift may vary from band to band, as well as the tuning rate, (KHZ per dial revolution)

ENTER THE SUPERHETERODYNE

One of the ways that we can improve on the TRF is the early Superhet. This didn't do much for the stability but did help the sensitivity and selectivity. This receiver takes the RF input signal and converts it up, or down, in frequency into an intermediate frequency - IF. This IF is constant so we can use narrow band IF transformers and even a crystal or mechanical filter for selectivity. All the stages after the 1st mixer (converter) are just like a fixed frequency TRF receiver. Now the BFO can use a crystal for stability (one for USB

and one for LSB). Without the good filters there may have been two IF frequencies with a crystal oscillator used with the 2nd mixer. The 1st IF may have been at 455 KHZ or even up in the MHz range for image rejection and the 2nd IF as low as 50 KHZ for selectivity, using LC circuits. As I said all this did nothing for stability however. In fact the superhet as I have described it this far may be about the same as the TRF in terms of stability due to the VFO used in the 1st mixer. This VFO has to tune the same frequency range as the RF frequency range we want to receive. It is just offset in frequency by a frequency equal to the 1st IF frequency. This along with the multiband switching leads us back to the same drift and tuning rate problems we had with the TRF.

ENTER THE L M O

One way around all of this is to use a crystal oscillator with the 1st mixer, one for each band. The output of the first mixer now feeds a wideband IF. This may be a wideband transformer or it may be a tuned RF amplifier that tracks with the dial, ala TRF. The 2nd mixer will use a VFO for receiver tuning. The same VFO is used on all bands and with only one VFO we can now spend the \$\$ and make it stable and linear. Now the drift (hopefully low) and tuning rate will be the same on all bands. With only one VFO to stabilize and all other oscillators crystal controlled this can lead to a very stable receiver.

There are many other ways used to achieve frequency stability, the trick here was to use the same VFO on all bands and make all other oscillators crystal controlled. The next step is to use only one very high stability crystal oscillator and PHASE LOCK all the other oscillators in the receiver, including the VFO, with this "master oscillator".

All of the above schemes can also be used in the transmitter and with the same frequency relationships used in both this lends itself well to transceiving.

73

Jim WA2CEP

UPGRADES/NEW CALLS

WB6SNV, upgraded to General. His new call is N6EYX.

Don K9OZM is now NI6A. Congratulations on upgrading up to extra.

Paul, WA6TXM is now KC7LA in Olympia, Washington

N6GQ

Membership

On the membership application for the Club we ask, "Do you know any foreign language?" Don W6JNS reports, "I occasionally talk turkey." Lauren, WA6CIE says "finger spelling," he means sign language. John KA6BSN is surely the most knowledgeable. He put down Spanish, German, Hungarian and French!

Your membership chairman saved money on Auction night. I was too busy signing up new members so was unable to bid on the boat anchors. The club welcomed seven new members and signed up six renewals for a total of 219.

Frank N6GQ

Attn: New Members

Don't wait to be called for Public Service.

If you have a 2 meter mobile or hand held rig and are interested in participating in communications for parades, races, rides and other such activities, let us know! Dates for public service events are given in the calendar on the first page of the CARRIER. Let me or one of the Club officers know of your interest and availability for particular events. Don't worry about lack of experience. It is easy, straightforward message handling with a minimum of formality. Try one event and we wager you will want to be in others. And we NEED your help. Come and enjoy one of the more pleasant and rewarding types of amateur activity.

Joe Gregory WA6DQN 283-6560

Tips & Techniques

Tired of the flimsy microphone cords that come attached to the mics of your super expensive gear? After repairing internal breaks in my Kenwood microphone cords over and over again (including the expensive MC-30S) I'd finally had it. SOLUTION: BELDIN makes replacement coiled mic cords that are manufactured to withstand frequent use and the twisting and pulling we all give these mics.

The only local source I have found for the BELDIN cords is ZACK in Vallejo. A replacement cord for the MC-30S ran about \$7.50. Thinner cords are available for the smaller palm mics too.

WA6GON

(Send your Tips & Techniques to the CARRIER Box 23222 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 0222.)

Treasurer's Report

An inventory of books and equipment belonging to the Club is now being taken. This will help the Education and Field Events people to know what material is available for their use. Please help by sending a note to the Treasurer telling what the material is and where it is located or sign the information onto an inventory sheet at the next Club meeting.

Our thanks to Don Bertrand, Doug Lortsher, Joseph Simpson and Harry Brown for supporting their Club through subscriptions to ARRL (QST Magazine). For each subscription the Club earns \$2.00. When you receive your notice from ARRL indicating renewal time is near make checks payable to Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club and mail them together with the application card to me or bring them in at the monthly meeting.

73, Nancy KA6IZI

Ponder This.....

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A. W. BOYD

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Rachel Carson



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